

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 3-28 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1 and 15 are amended. Support for the amendments to claims 1 and 15 can be found at least at paragraphs [0034] and [0035] and in Figs. 4 and 5. Thus, no new matter is added.

I. Personal Interview

Applicants appreciate the courtesies shown to Applicants' representatives by Examiner Wilhelm in the July 14, 2010 personal interview. Applicants' separate record of the substance of the interview is incorporated into the following remarks.

II. Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication that claims 5-7, 22 and 24-27 recite allowable subject matter.

III. Claims 12-14 are Indicated as Withdrawn

Claims 12-14 are indicated as withdrawn in the Summary page of the Office Action. This appears to be in error. The Office Action does not indicate why these claims are "withdrawn". Thus, Applicants respectfully request confirmation that the claims are allowable as not otherwise rejected.

IV. Rejections

The Office Action rejects claims 1, 3, 4, 8-11, 16-18, 21, 23 and 28 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Takimoto et al. (U.S. Patent No. 7,182,365, herein after "Takimoto") in view of Mitsuyoshi (JP 2002-127862); and rejects claims 15, 19 and 20 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Takimoto and Mitsuyoshi and further in view of Okada et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,299,202). These rejections are respectfully traversed.

As agreed during the interview, the applied references fail to disclose and would not have rendered obvious "the airbag support extends in such a way that the one end portion of

the airbag support separates upward and moves upward above the airbag upon the deployment of the airbag, and the other end portion of the airbag support is directly attached at the airbag, the other end portion being located in a lower side of the airbag support when the airbag has deployed," as recited by independent claim 1; and "the airbag support extends in such a way that the one end portion of the airbag support separates upward from the airbag and moves upward above the airbag upon the deployment of the airbag, and the other end portion of the airbag support is integrally formed at the airbag cover, the other end portion being located in a lower side of the airbag support when the airbag has deployed," as recited by independent claim 15.

For at least these reasons, independent claims 1 and 15 are patentable over the applied references. Claims 3-14 and 16-28 are patentable for at least their dependency from the independent claims, as well as for the additional features they recite.

Thus, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejections.

V. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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